Basin	1997	Area 1998
Assam Arakan Fold Belt	Sahabazpur	—
Exploratory Drilling		
Satpura	Anhoni	—
Cambay	Teiavi Balasar Anklav	Charada Karjan
Krishna-Godavari	Manginapudi, Ambajipeta Kandikuppa, Viravasaram, Makanapalem	Donapadu, Gokarnapuram, Kesavadasapalem
Cauvery	Periyapattinam, Neyveli, Siruvattur, Ramanavalasai	Kariyapatnam, Kirangudi, Koluvor, Kali, Kikkadu
Bombay Offshore	RN-1 ED5A, D-5, MDS, B23A, EDC	B201, B34, EDA
Assam Arakan Fold Belt	—	Rajnagar
Upper Assam	—	Panidihing
Coal Bed Methane Exploration		
Gondwana	Jharia-1 (Parbatpur)	—

Per Capita availability of Kerosene in Gujarat

231. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a)the per capita availability of kerosene in Gujarat at present and its comparison with the national average; and

(b)The steps Government have taken to increase the allocation of kerosene to Gujarat so as to increase the per capita availability in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The projected per capita availability of kerosene in Gujarat during the current year (1998-99) is 20.13 KG per annum against the estimated national average of 12.4 KG per annum.

(b) The per capita availability of kerosene in the State of Gujarat is much higher than the national average. The allocation of kerosene to the State has been increased by 9261 MTs during 1998-99, making per capita availability of kerosene for the State at 20.13 Kgs per annum:

Demand of Natural Gas by 2000 A.D.

232. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government have made any estimate on the demand of Natural Gas in the country by 2000 A.D.;

(b)if so, the details thereof; and

(c)in what manner Government propose to meet the demand of natural gas in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The approximate demand for natural gas in the country by 2000 A.D. has been estimated at 146 Million Metric Standard Cubic Metre Per Day (MMSCMD) by the Expert Group appointed by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in 1993.

(c) By the year 2000 A.D., the domestic availability of gas supply is estimated to be only around 60 MMSCMD. As a measure to partly meet the gap between demand and supply, the Government has approved the formation of a Joint Venture Company consisting of GAIL, ONGC, IOC & BPCL to explore the possibilities of importing Liquefied Natural Gas to India. Government has also given FIPB approvals to private companies to import LNG into the country.

Prices of Petroleum Products

233. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a)whether the prices of petroleurr/ petroleum products have shown a downward trend in the recent past;

(b)if so, the details of the prevalent prices in the international market during the last six months, month-wise; and

(c) the impact it has on the domestic prices of petroleum products during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the international market during the last six months as published by Platts arc given in the statement, *(see* below).

(c) The Government has decided that price of HSD will be fixed on the principle of import parity pricing up to ex-storage point level. Accordingly, the cx-storage point price of HSD has been revised as under:

Effective Dates	Ex-storage point Price (excluding Excise duty etc.) Rs/KL
07.11.97	7918.04
25.12.97	7996.84
01.03.98	7839.24
04.04.98	7645.47
20.05.98	7536.89

The prices of petroleum products like Naphtha, FO, LSHS, Bitumen, Paraffin-wax etc. have been decontrolled w.e.f. 1.4.98 and the oil companies have been allowed to fix their prices based on the market consideration.

Statement

Published prices of crude oil & petroleum products during last six months

Month	Dubai	Brent Dated	Oman
	$/Bbl	$<Bbl	$/Bbl
NOV. 97	18.484	19.153	18.551
DEC 97	16.288	17.103	16.428
JAN 98	13.411	15.115	13.612
FEB 98	12.319	13.953	12.578
MAR 98	11.476	13.056	11.743
APR 98	12.230	13.431	12.405